

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal comprising the step of

exciting a coupler made by two parallel coupled cavity waveguides close to one another, implemented in a photonic crystal, in which the two coupled cavity waveguides are physically separated without any cavities provided between said cavity waveguides and can be suitably curved,

the method dividing a guided electromagnetic input signal into two output half-power signals that travel the same physical path without delay between the two; and

wherein it is based on exciting the odd mode of the coupler obtaining at the output two signals with a 180° phase difference.

Claim 2. (Cancelled).

Claim 3. (Cancelled).

Claim 4. (Previously Presented): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal according to Claim 1, wherein it can use any type of 2D crystal.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal according to Claim 1, wherein it can use any type of 3D crystal.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal according to Claim 1, wherein it is for application in a photonic crystal with a triangular lattice type.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal according to Claim 1, wherein it is for application in a photonic crystal with a square lattice type.

Claim 8. (New): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal comprising the step of

exciting a coupler made by two parallel coupled cavity waveguides close to one another, implemented in a photonic crystal, in which the two coupled cavity waveguides are physically separated without any cavities provided between said cavity waveguides and can be suitably curved,

the method dividing a guided electromagnetic input signal into two output half-power signals that travel the same physical path without delay between the two; and

wherein it is based on exciting the even mode of the coupler to produce half-power signals with  $0^\circ$  phase difference.

Claim 9. (New): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal according to Claim 8, wherein it can use any type of 2D crystal.

Claim 10. (New): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal according to Claim 8, wherein it can use any type of 3D crystal.

Claim 11. (New): Method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal according to Claim 8, wherein it is for application in a photonic crystal with a triangular lattice type.

Claim 12. (New): method of dividing a guided electromagnetic signal according to Claim 8, wherein it is for application in a photonic crystal with a square lattice type.